



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF CONRAD LEE AS REGION X ADMINISTRATOR

WASHINGTON – Conrad Lee, a Chinese-American businessman, engineer and community leader, has been appointed regional administrator in Region X to oversee the U.S. Small Business Administration's programs and services in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska.

"Small business owners in the Northwest have an outstanding advocate in Mr. Lee, an Asian-American with experience helping businesses in the Pacific Rim," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. **"His business management skills and experience, along with his long history of public service, also make him a tremendous asset as a member of the SBA's management team."**

Born in China, Lee came to the United States to earn an engineering degree from the University of Michigan in 1962. From 1962-78, except for two years as a stockbroker, Lee worked for Boeing Co. in various capacities, including engineer, marketing sales manager and energy analyst. He received an MBA in finance and international business from the University of Washington in 1980.

From 1979-96 Lee was project manager for the City of Seattle Solid Waste Utility. He helped develop a solid-waste plan that is a model for other U.S. cities. His experience working with local government prompted him to run for the Bellevue (Wash.) City Council, where he is beginning a third four-year term.

Since 1979 Lee has been the owner and managing partner of a property-management business. During the 1980s he helped small businesses with international trade.

"It is a rare honor and special pleasure for me to serve President Bush, along with the country I dearly love and my fellow Americans," Lee said. "I appreciate and value this country's democracy and economic/political system. I am blessed to have lived the American dream and that I am able to give back in some small way what I have so abundantly received."

From the SBA's regional headquarters in Seattle, Lee oversees district offices in Seattle and Spokane, Wash.; Boise, Idaho; Portland, Ore.; and Anchorage, Alaska. During fiscal year 2001, Region X helped 2,014 small businesses obtain \$556.2 million in loan guarantees.

For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800 U ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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